IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Reniero et al. Appl. No.: 09/936,543

Conf. No.:

7133

Filed:

January 7, 2002

Title:

LACTIC ACID BACTERIA STRAINS CAPABLE OF PREVENTING

DIARRHOEA

Art Unit: Examiner:

1651

Docket No.:

112843-031

D. Ware

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

Sir:

I, Robert M. Barrett, an attorney of record, do hereby state that Nestec S.A. is the owner of the entire right, title and interest of any patent granted on U.S. Patent Nos. 09/936,489 and 09/936,542. The terminal part of any patent granted on U.S. Application Serial No. 09/936,543 which would extend beyond the expiration date of any patent granted on U.S. Patent Application Nos. 09/936,542 and 09/936,489 is hereby disclaimed and it is hereby agreed that any patent so granted on the above-identified U.S. Application Serial No. 09/936,543 shall be enforceable only for and during such period that the legal title to said patent shall be the same as the legal title to any patent granted on U.S. Patent Application Nos. 09/936,542 and 09/936,489, this agreement to run with any patent granted on the above-identified application and to be binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

The evidentiary documents have been reviewed and it is hereby certified that to the best of my knowledge and belief that title to the above-identified patent application is in the name of Nestec S.A.

In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. § 154 to § 156 and § 173 of the prior patent, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, in the event that it later expires for failure to pay a

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maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321, has all claims cancelled by a reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shorted by any terminal disclaimer.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Barrett (30,142)

Cust. No. 29174